

The Elder Magazine

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DEVOTED TO THINGS
NUMISMATIC
ARCHAEOLOGIC
PHILATELIC
HISTORIC
ANTIQUE, &C.



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Coins of the Confederacy

BY E. H. ADAMS.

That the Confederate Government contemplated the issue of a metallic currency is certain, though coins distinctively associated with the Confederacy never appeared in general circulation. Designs for a half dollar and a cent were made, dies cut and a few coins of each denomination struck in various metals. These coins now rank high with American collectors.

It was some time after the war—seventeen or eighteen years—that

the first evidence of the existence of a Confederate half dollar came to light. In January, 1879, B. F. Taylor, M. D., secretary and treasurer of the Louisiana State Board of Health, wrote to E. Mason, Jr., a well known Philadelphia numismatist, and informed him that he had a Confederate coin in his possession. A good deal of doubt was at first felt about the coin's genuineness, but investigation revealed the fact that at least four silver fifty cent pieces were struck by the Confederate authorities at the New Orleans mint in 1861.

It seems that when the Confederates seized the United States mint at New Orleans they conceived the idea of an issue of Confederate coins. It is fairly certain, however, that after the mint fell into their hands all available bullion was used for regular United States half dollars.

The former officers of the mint were retained when the State of Louisiana turned the establishment over to the Confederate States, and in April, 1861, Secretary Memminger of the Confederate Treasury ordered that designs for a half dollar should be submitted to him. Several designs were offered for his approval, it is said, although the accepted one is the only design on record.

This bore an obverse identical with the regular United States half dollar of 1861, the well known seated figure of the Goddess of Liberty, surrounded by thirteen stars, with the date 1861. The reverse design, on the contrary, was of an entirely original character.

In the centre of the field was a shield which bore seven stars, one for each seceding State. Above the shield was a liberty cap, while surrounding the central design was a wreath composed of sugar cane and cotton. Around the border at the top was the inscription, "Confederate States of America," and underneath was the denomination, "Half Dol."

These dies were cut by an engraver named A. H. M. Peterson, and the coins were struck by Conrad Schmidt, foreman of the coining room. When the dies came to the coiner they were found to be unsuitable for the regular press, so four pieces were struck on the old fashioned screw press.

Dr. Taylor was the chief coiner at the mint in 1861, and in his letters to Mr. Mason he stated that one of the four pieces was sent to the Confederate Government, the second to Prof. Biddle of the University of Louisiana, the third to Dr. E. Ames of New Orleans, while the fourth was kept by himself.

The four pieces were all that were coined from the dies, for owing

to scarcity of silver bullion the mint was shut down on April 30, 1861. Only one of these original pieces can now be located, and this when last offered for sale brought \$870.

Some time in the '70s the reverse die fell into the possession of a firm of coin dealers in New York, who are credited with having restruck at least 500 regular United States half dollars of 1861 from the Confederate reverse die after having removed the original United States reverse.

The restruck coins were similar to those struck by the Confederate Government, only the closest scrutiny developing the difference, and this fact had had a tendency to lessen the interest in the genuine and original Confederate half dollar. But even the restruck Confederate half dollars command a premium of from \$5 to \$6 when well preserved.

That the Confederate Government had planned the issue of a cent piece came to light accidentally. Some time between 1865 and 1870 a nickel coin was submitted to a coin dealer in Philadelphia for examination.

It was of about the same size as a United States cent and showed a youthful head of Liberty on the obverse, wearing a liberty cap, around the border being inscribed "Confederate States of America." Below was the date "1861." On the reverse were the words "One Cent" in the centre of a wreath emblematic of the products of Southern States and composed of small ears of corn and wheat and tiny hogsheads, with a miniature cotton bale in the middle of the wreath.

In tracing the origin of the piece the fact was developed that the dies were cut by a Philadelphia engraver by the name of Lovett, who, upon being approached in 1873 concerning the matter admitted, with considerable reluctance, that he had engraved the dies for the coin upon a commission from the Confederate authorities.

He said that the whole work had been conducted with secrecy, owing to the probable unpleasant consequences to himself should the matter come to the attention of the Federal authorities. He had struck twelve pieces in nickel from the dies, two of which had been lost, and these led to the discovery of the contemplated issue. The dies were sent down South, and it is not thought that they were ever used there.

Years afterward the dies were again sent back to Philadelphia and a firm of coin dealers gained possession of them and made arrangements to strike a limited number of pieces in different metals. They planned to coin seven in gold, twelve in silver and 500 in copper, but

in striking the coins in the last named metal the collar of the dies burst upon making the fifty-fifth impression and the work was abandoned.

The total number of Confederate cents now known to be in existence is seven in gold, ten in nickel, the other two of the original twelve having disappeared; twelve in silver and fifty-five in copper. The gold specimens are valued at \$100 each, those in silver and nickel at about \$25 and the copper cents at from \$10 upward.

The dies were defaced and later were bought by a well known Chicago collector, Judson Brenner, who also has a specimen of each coin in the four different metals.—Sun.

Rare Flying Eagle Cents

By E. H. ADAMS.

The flying eagle cent dated 1856 is this country's traditional rare coin. Everybody has heard of it and everybody knows that it is said to be rare.

Mary a person looking over small change has come across a white cent bearing a flying eagle on the obverse and at once jumped to the conclusion that it is one of the rare pieces, only to be disappointed when told that the rare coin is the one dated 1856, and that the flying eagle cents dated 1857 or 1858 have no value above that of the ordinary cent. Every county, it seems, has its traditional rare coin. Thus England has her Queen Anne farthing, about which much erroneous information has appeared. Canada has a coin of which every person in that part of North America has heard. It is usually called the Montreal side view penny, and was issued some time in 1838 or 1839. Yet though the flying eagle cent of 1856 is traditionally rare, it is by no means scarce, properly speaking. Therein lies the most remarkable phase of this remarkable coin. Hundreds of 1856 cents are in existence, and there may be thousands. One writer on coins some years ago stated his belief that fully 15,000 of the pieces had been struck.

Yet the premium brought for a proof specimen of this cent at any of the auction sales held in recent years has rarely fallen below \$12, and there is a record price of \$16 given for a very fine specimen. Not

satisfied with a single specimen, it has been the ambition of some collectors to obtain all they could. One collector who resided at Atlantic City had 109 pieces of this design and date.

In 1906, after his death, the entire lot was offered at public auction. One might suppose that throwing this great number upon the market at one time would have a tendency to pull the price down, but actually it had no effect upon the premium. Collectors gathered from different parts of the country and bid for each single piece offered as if it represented the only one known, or at least was one of a very few of the kind, and while the different specimens put up for sale varied in price according to their state of preservation, still the prices were on a par with those paid at the usual sale when but a single specimen was offered.

The 1856 cent owes its origin to the fact that about 1855 a change was desired from the cumbersome and heavy copper cent which had been issued yearly, with the single exception of 1815, since the opening of the first United States mint in 1793. It was also intended at the same time to abandon the half cent piece.

The mint engravers fixed upon the pattern of the flying eagle, which had been previously used on United States coins, especially the silver dollars of 1836 and 1838. In order that Congress might see what the new coin looked like, specimens are said to have been presented to various Congressmen, and it is also supposed that to demonstrate to the coinage committee just how the design appeared in various base metals and alloys the cents were struck in copper, copper-nickel and nickel. The most numerous variety of the cents of 1856 was in copper nickel.

The regularly adopted eagle cent of 1857 and 1858 showed on the obverse the eagle flying to the left, surrounded by the inscription, "United States of America," with the date, 1857 or 1858, below. On the reverse was a wreath made up of corn, tobacco and cotton, in which were enclosed the words "One Cent."

This is just the same design as that of the copper-nickel cent of 1856, the only variation being in the date. The 1856 coin is valued at from \$8 to \$16, according to its condition.

There were several rarer varieties of 1856. One of these shows the same style of eagle flying to the left on the obverse, but both inscription and date are omitted. The reverse is the same as the regular type. The metal is pure copper, instead of the so-called nickel of the regular issue, which contained only a small proportion

of nickel, the alloy consisting of eighty-eight parts of copper and twelve of nickel.

This copper piece evidently represented an experiment on the part of the engravers, and is quite scarce, a proof specimen having brought \$20 at a sale. Another specimen of the same design was struck in pure nickel, and this has sold for \$23.

An experimental cent of the 1856 series shows the regular inscription, "United States of America," around the eagle, but the date is omitted, and while the reverse shows the same wreath as on the regular issue, the words "One Cent" are lacking. This coin was struck in nickel and is worth at least \$25. The same variety was also struck in copper-nickel, the white metal of the regular issue, and there is a third variety in bronze, each of which is worth as much as that struck in nickel.

Closely associated with the last described coin was one struck in pure nickel, differing in design from the foregoing in the fact that the reverse bore the value, "One Cent," inside of the wreath. It is very rare. The only specimen on record was disposed of at the Parmelee sale, a good many years ago, when the great interest since manifested in the cent pieces of 1856 had only begun, yet even at that time the cent brought \$3.50.

The next oddity of the flying eagle cent series shows the obverse with the eagle and the inscription "United States of America, 1856," like the conventional design, but the reverse contains the words "One Cent" enclosed by a wreath of entirely different type from the others. This is composed of oak leaves and is tied at the base with a ribbon, which binds three arrows.

At the top is a small United States shield similar to that borne by the white cent issued in 1860. A proof specimen of this variety, struck in copper-nickel, brought \$26 at a recent sale, while the same design, in proof condition, but struck in pure copper, sold for \$30.

The dies of the regular 1856 flying eagle cent of the type adopted in 1857 were used to strike a limited number of coins in metals other than the regular copper-nickel composition. One of these, struck in pure copper, sold for \$13.50, while the same design in pure nickel brought \$30.

One variety of this series was an experimental cent showing the design struck on a planchet of copper-nickel which was about half the thickness of the regular piece. In striking this coin the engravers doubtless had in view the subsequent cent issues of a later period, the

first of which appeared in 1864, for it was of the same thickness as the present bronze cent. This piece sold for \$7.

The weight of the flying eagle cent was seventy-two grains, a material reduction from that of the large copper cent, which was authorized to weigh 168 grains. Even this was later reduced, for in 1864 Congress ordered the metal to be changed from copper-nickel to bronze and the weight still further reduced to forty-eight grains. The metal was authorized to consist of 95 per cent. copper and 5 per cent. tin and zinc, and this style of cent is in use at the present time. —N. Y. Sun.

QUEER COINS IN PLATES.

“It’s really true about church collections—I mean these jokes you hear about the queer coins that get into the collection,” remarked the Treasurer of a big East End congregation yesterday.

“Yes,” said the Treasurer, “it’s seldom that I fail to find some curious coins when I get the contents of the several collection plates each Sunday. There are seldom if ever any buttons, that’s all just talk about buttons being put in the collection plate, but there are plenty of coins that wouldn’t pass at any store. It’s not unusual to find foreign coins that are worth something, but which can’t be passed for their face value at the store. I don’t suppose there is any dishonesty in putting such coins in the basket, because the donor may have intended to give only a fraction of the face value of the coin. Then, of course, there are scores of coins, notably ten-cent pieces, that have worn smooth from use, and will no longer be accepted at the banks.”—Associated Press.

* * *

\$30,000 FOR FRENCH COIN.

Vieuna, Feb. 8.—Thirty thousand dollars has just been paid for a French gold coin of the face value of four dollars. Of course the coin was of great rarity, being one of the ten jubilee coins of that value ordered by Napoleon to be coined in 1806, the year he became emperor of the French. No specimen of this Napoleonic 20-franc piece existed in the French National museum, the authorities of which offered this record price for one.

Cards and Tokens of Thomas L. Elder

(Compiled by E. SMITH.)

No. 1.

Obverse :

Thomas L. Elder
238
Sheridan Ave.
Pittsburg, Pa.
U. S. A.
Moveo Et Profico
1902.

Reverse :

Importer and Dealer In
Ancient
and
Modern Coins.
Paper Money,
Cut Gems & Etc.
Price List Free
Goods Sent
On Approval

100 in Copper and 1000 in Aluminum.

(Note—Error in spelling of word ‘Proficio’ and repetition of ‘etc.’)

No. 2.

Obverse :

Thomas L. Elder
—★—
238
Sheridan Avenue
Pittsburg, Pa. U S. A.
Moveo et Proficio
Aug. 4, 1902.
Aetas 28.

Reverse :

Importer and Dealer In
Ancient
and
Modern Coins,
Paper Money,
Curios,
Cut Gem Stones, Etc.
Free Price Lists.
Goods Sent For
Examination

100 in Copper and 1000 in Aluminum.

No. 3.

Obverse :

Coins and Medals Of All Ages
Bought
And Sold
Thomas L. Elder
32 East
23RD Street
New York City
Card No. 3—Oct. 1. 1906

Reverse :

Collections of Coins, Medals, Etc.
Sold At
Public Auction
In New York
Write for Terms ,
The Elder
Monthly
A Collector's Magazine
50c Per Year

One in gold, 4 in silver, 5 in fibre, 5 in German silver, 5 in white metal, 7 in lead, 100 in brass, 100 in copper and 500 in aluminum. There were also overstrikes of the cards as follows: 1 on brass, 4 on nickel, 3 on white metal and 13 on copper.

No. 4.

Obverse:

Head of Washington to the right
surrounded with his name

George Washington
1789 1889
Inaugural Centennial In New York

Reverse:

More Enduring Than Books Or
Customs Or Nations.

A Coin
Thomas L. Elder
Coin Dealer
32 East 23rd Street
New York.

Five in brass, 5 in copper, 5 in fibre, 5 in lead, 5 in white metal and 6 in aluminum.

No. 5.

Obverse:

Same as on
card No. 4

Reverse:

More Enduring Than Books,
Or

Customs,
Or Nations:
— A Coin —

Thomas L. Elder.
Coin Dealer
32 East 23rd St.,
New York City.

Two in gold, 6 in silver, 7 in fibre, 7 in lead, 11 in German silver, 50 in brass, 50 in copper, 50 in white metal and 261 in aluminum. There were also overstrikes of the card as follows: 12 on copper.

No. 6.

(Issued in September, 1907)

A die was made showing a reverse as below of which there was only one pattern or trial piece struck in lead. This style was rejected and in it's stead card No. 7 was issued.

Steam Navigation Centennial

Robert Fulton

—★—

b. 1785 d. 1815

Thomas L. Elder

Numismatist

32 E. 23d St.

New York

City

—★— 1807 — 1907 —★—

No. 7.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Same as on
Card No. 4

Reverse :

Steam Navigation Centennial

Robert Fulton

—★—

b 1785 d 1815

Thomas L. Elder

Numismatist

32 E. 23d. St.

New York

City.

-★- 1807 — 1907 -★-

Nine in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal, 10 in aluminum.

No. 8.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Head of John Ericsson
to the left, name above
head, under the head
1803—1903

Reverse :

Same reverse as on
Card No. 7

One in gold, 3 in silver, 4 in fibre, 3 in lead, 26 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 153 in aluminum.

No. 9.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Ship Santa Maria
with full sails going left,
above is the inscription
Columbus In Sight Of
The New World

Reverse :

Commemorating
Jamestown
Ter - Centennial
Exposition
1607 — 1907
Thomas L. Elder
Coin Dealer
32 E. 23d. St.
N. Y. City.

One in gold, 3 in silver, 3 in fibre, 3 in lead, 25 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 151 in aluminum.

No. 10.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Head and shoulders of
Columbus facing with
a slight turn to right.
Around the head is
1492 Christopher Columbus 1893

Reverse :

American Numismatic Association
Treinnial
Convention

Thomas L. Elder
Numismatist
32 E. 23d St. N. Y.

Sept. 2. 3. 4.
1907

★ Columbus, O. ★

One in gold, 3 in silver, 3 in fibre, 3 in lead, 25 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 151 in aluminum. There were also over-strikes of the cards as follows: 1 on brass, 6 on copper and 1 on nickel.

No. 11.

(Issue September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Same obverse as on
Card No. 4

Reverse :

Same reverse as on
Card No.

Ten in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal and 10 in aluminum.

No. 12.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :
Same obverse as on
Card No.

Reverse :
Same reverse as on
Card No. 10

Ten in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal, and 10 in aluminum.

No. 13.

(Issued December, 1907.)

Obverse :
Head of Lincoln to right,
below his name and
1809—1909
Around the rim the words:
Born Feb. 12. 1809.
Assassinated By Booth
Apr. 14. 1865.

Reverse :
Taken As A Whole.
His Rise,
Development,
Ability, Power, Acts
And End, Have Not
A Parallel In
Human History

T. L. Elder N. Y.

One in gold, 5 in silver, 5 in fibre, 5 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 5 in white metal, 20 in aluminum, 5 in German silver.

(To be continued.)

One of the most complete and valuable collections of ancient Roman coins in the world were recently sold by auction in Europe. The coins are fetching exceptionally good prices, the more so as the agents of the principal museums of Europe are bidding for them.

Two coins of one-fifth of a cent from Taranto, dating back to the sixth century B. C., have been sold for \$4,530 to the Museum of Naples, and coins have been bought by the Florence Museum and by German and French museums.

While the sale was proceeding an order of the Minister of Public Instruction prohibiting the exportation of the coins on account of their exceptional rarity was served on the auctioneer and naturally the sale had to be interrupted. It is very likely that a law suit for damages against the Government will follow, as the foreign purchasers insist that that part of the sale preceeding the serving of the order is perfectly legal.

Letter Box.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I wish to say that I have received the coins ordered. I want an old U. S. cent and a Confederate 5c postage stamp. I am here returning the same to you and so please return me my stamps, or send me some coins for the stamps for which I could get some value, as I wish to say that I am very and very poor, I have an old blind mother and I got to go around and do washing for 50 cents to make mine and mother's living, so you can see for yourself that I am in misery and that my life is not happy but its all tears so please if you have a heart that feels please be kind and either return me the stamps, but I would rather have you to send me some coin or some note for which I could sell and make my life a little brighter, as I haven't enough money to buy a coin guide book because all the money that I make on washing goes for bread and house rent for my poor blind mother and then sometimes I haven't enough to pay that and so I don't get no spare money for myself and then I cannot buy a coin guide to know what to go by so please if you have a heart for the poor please send me some coin for the stamps I send you have mercy on me and the Almighty God will repay you for all the good you do for the poor and penniless.

Hoping to hear from you at once I beg to remain,

Yours for ever,

Iowa, May 1st, 1906.

ANNA B—

Editor's Note—A letter received a few days later from this person contained a \$5 bill for a dollar of 1797, etc Evidently a change in luck was experienced.

* * *

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I saw by the press that you paid \$112.50 for an 1805 U. S. cent. I have a fine collection of coins. I have cents 1795, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1806. I have a very fine 10c piece, silver, 1800, I have 4 coins coined 210 years B. C.—coined when Venus ruled. I have one coined in the year 34. I have about 200 different pieces most of them in a good state of preservation.

Yours truly,

N. J., July 3rd, 1906.

J. W. HICKS.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Unknown Friend:—As I was reading in my newspaper called the Baltimore American I noticed this sketch you will find enclosed that you bought an 1804 dollar for \$1,000 and as I have an 1808 half dollar thought I would write you and ask you if you would want to buy it. It at one time belonged to my great-grandmother. I have taken great pride in this old coin but will sell it if I can get anyways right for it. Money made in these dates of 1804 and 1808 are very rare and I also have a \$1.00 gold piece made in 1852. I will also dispose of this if any one would want to buy it, also a half cent of 1834. Now if you would want these coins or any of them will you kindly write me and say what you will give me for them and tell me what you think the best way to send them to you and I will be sure to send them to you.

The half dollar is silver not paper, it bears the the marks around the edge which is a plain edge—FIFTY CENTS. O. R. F. A. DOLLAR—these are the words and in print as above, has 13 stars on each side between the head. I will mark them off on paper as best I can so you can see near about what they are like. The gold piece is so precious that I could not mark the date very plainly but it is 1852 nevertheless

Hoping to receive an early reply, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely,

MRS. LYDIA A. HUNT.

Hobbs, Md., R. F. D. No. 2., July 13, 1906.

P. S. Please let me hear from you if you patronize me or not.

* * *

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—Find enclosed 25 cts. for retail list of coins, etc., and 1906 Rare Coin Book. I would also like to know if you keep the following old coins: Gold Double Eagle, \$20, date 1849; Half Eagle, \$5, date 1815; Half Eagle, date 1822; Silver \$1.00, date 1804; Dime, 10c, "S" under wreath, date 1804. If you have such coins to sell let me know as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Springfield, O, July 2.

WILLIE ARMSTRONG.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I have a piece of coin which we would like to know the value of. It is number 1788.

1908

1788

—120 years old.

Hope Church, Feb. 12th, 1908.

HATTIE BARNETT.

SHAH'S TREASURES.

If the Shah cares to fall back on the treasures of his palace he can keep the wolf from the door for many a year. Nobody knows the wealth stored up in it. In the building called the museum there are said to be bins full of emeralds, topazes, rubies, diamonds and pearls which have been accumulating for generations.

There are besides priceless articles of pottery, and metal work, Japanese and Chinese, Indian, Sevres, Dresden china, gold, silver and steel work from all parts of the Orient. The collection of ancient arms and armor is worth perhaps a million dollars.

Then there are the gorgeous articles of barbaric splendor which make up the regalia. When the Shah appears in State he wears a tiara of brilliants, surmounted with an aigrette of precious stones.

On his forehead shimmers the famous diamond known as the Mountain of Light. His epaulets are studded with emeralds, sapphires and topazes. His belt glitters with diamonds and his sword handle and scabbard are incrustated with rubies.

The terrestrial globe made by his grandfather's order shows all the continents and seas in precious stones, Persia being in diamonds. The celebrated peacock throne consists of a great square pedestal over which branches of foliage creep, all made of emeralds, with flowers in rubies and pearls.

The chair is of gold and seems to be splashed with blood, but it is only patches of rubies. Above the back shines a sun of diamonds, so set on wires that they tremble with the motion of the occupant of the chair, sending flashes of light in all directions like the sun itself. This throne has been appraised as high as \$40,000,000.

Besides his palace and his hunting lodges the Shah has several country houses with beautiful gardens, whither he goes to escape the heat, taking sections of the regiments of servants with him. The present Shah has added automobiling to his pleasures.—N. Y. Sun.



The Chicago Numismatic Society.

The 49th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Feb. 7th, President Virgil M. Brand presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Carey W. F. Dunham, McDonald, Tracy, Brand, Simpson; Excell, Leon, Blumenschein, Merrill, Chester Dunham, Huber, Holmes, Baker, Sorensen, Williams, Hissler and Green.

The resignations of Elmer S. Sears and Geo. Froelich were received and accepted. A communication was read from T. Louis Comparette, Curator of the Mint Cabinet at Philadelphia, expressing his kindly regard for the Society and offering some valuable suggestions. Messrs. Marvin A. Barlow and J de Lagerberg were elected to membership.

Mr. Williams read a paper on specializing, and Mr. Brand read a paper on the Pilgrims's Rest mint where the last of the official coins of the South African Republic were struck, and exhibited one of the pieces. Mr. Holmes showed English gold of the values from one-fourth to five guineas. Mr. W. F. Dunham exhibited the United States eagles from 1795 to 1804, all in superb condition.

The President installed in office J. B. Holmes, Vice President, H. F. Williams, Censor, and W. H. McDonald, a member of the Executive Board for 1908, these gentlemen having been absent from the last meeting. The President appointed Messrs. Holmes, Excell and Sorensen as a Membership Committee for 1908. An informal auction of medals netted \$5.83 for the binding fund.

The following magazines were received since last report: Numismatist and Mehl's Numismatic Monthly for Jan. and Feb.; Philatelic West, Spink's Numismatic Circular, Numismatischer Verkehr and Numismatische Correspondenz for January.

A motion was carried authorizing the Censor and Executive Board to issue a bulletin before next meeting of not less than four pages.

Adjourned to meet March 6th.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, Jan 17, 1908.

The first monthly meeting for 1908 was held on the above date, Judge Sicotte presiding. The minutes of society meetings held December were read and approved also the minutes of Council meeting. A resolution was passed approving the movement for the preservation of the Plains of Abraham and the Battlefield of Ste. Foye.

J. B. Archambault was elected member.

Mr. MacLachlan exhibited 200 coins, medals and tokens added to his Canadian Collection during 1907 accompanied by a short paper commenting thereon and other exhibits had been shown, followed by very interesting discussion.



The American Numismatic Society

Curator Poillon reports that 2,000 pieces were donated to the Society during last year. The donors follow: Benjamin Betts, Daniel Parish, Jr., Chas. Gregory, J. W. Scott, J. Throudsen, Archer M. Huntington, Edw. D. Adams, Mansfield Hillhouse, J. de Lagerberg, J. N. T. Levick, Engravers Morgan and Barber of the Mint, Vincent Gurdgi, Mrs. Jane L. Nicholas, Jeremiah Zimmerman, Chas. K. Warner, Robert W. MacLachlan, Thomas L. Elder, J. Sanford Saltus,

So. Cal. Stamp Co., Joseph E. Waitt, F. D. Andrews, Emil Rey, J. E. Roine, D. R. Gibson, J. C. Hills, Dr. E. Seegar, S. H. Quints Sons, J. B. Holmes, Wm. F. Shailer, La. Purchase Exposition, and Committee on Publication of medals.

* * *

The great collection of medals and coins, very recently donated by Daniel Parish, Jr., is said to be worth anywhere from \$20,000 to \$50,000. Mr. William R. Weeks has been elected Librarian, and is busily engaged in putting the books and pamphlets in first class shape.

* * *

Sets of the new St. Gaudens \$10 and \$20 gold pieces have been donated to the Society. These include all of the very rare patterns, not accepted but the \$20 piece in very high relief, of the same diameters as the \$10. It is understood that Dr. Kunz was largely instrumental in securing these great rarities, only two or three of each having been struck.

COLLECTING.

Collecting is one of the few pleasures of mankind that brings pleasure to all and injury to none. It is a never failing joy in sickness and in health. It is suited to rich and poor and lasts from early youth to extreme old age. We have seen two year olds pasting stamps in a book and once we received a letter of apology from a customer for some slight oversight giving as an excuse that she was turned ninety and that her eyes were not as good as they used to be. We have five patrons now on our list who have passed the eightieth milestone of life's journey. The widow of a lately deceased collector stated her belief that the interest taken in stamps by her late husband had prolonged his life at least four years. For health, happiness and long life there is no pleasure like collecting, be it books, pictures, stamps, coins or any of the hundreds of things that have enjoyed the attention of mankind from the dawn of civilization to the present day.—Met. Phil.

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OFFICIAL REPORT OF

A. A. JOHNSON

Chief of Mineral Dept. State Land Board, Colorado,

Reads as follows: "The Hahns Peak Gold Mining & Milling Co. are working on some 20 claims on the northwest slope of the peak at an altitude of 10,200 feet and have driven a tunnel 800 feet into the mountain and have cut *three or four valuable veins and fissures* and have now a good shipping mine of high grade ore, known as the Royal Flush Mine. I examined this tunnel and sampled the ores in the various veins. Cut and assay returns gave following results as shown in Assay Certificate by Henry E. Wood of Denver.

	Total value
3 ft. Vein # 1, Gold 1.58 oz., Silver 118 oz.....	\$108 69
10 in. Vein # 2 gave 3.24 oz. Gold, 178 oz. Silver	181 02
12 in Vein # 3 gave 0.11 oz Gold, 29.90 oz. Silver...	21 83

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WRITE

H. O. CRANBERG, OSHKOSH, WIS.

MEDALLIC HISTORY OF LINCOLN.

A series of interesting historical medals, struck by Thomas L. Elder, in honor of Abram Lincoln. No name, not even that of Washington, is dearer to the hearts of the American people. The Lincoln centennial will be one of the notable events of next year. The medals bear, in the words of Robert T. Lincoln, his son, "an excellent likeness" of the great "Abe." The dates of his birth and assassination are given on the obverse. The reverses are varied and include some of the quaint political utterances of the campaign of 1860. Important events of his life, from the time he was a canal-boatman until his death are recorded. Nothing similar in Lincoln tokens has ever been issued. Only a few medals were struck from each die, after which it was destroyed. They are here offered for sale to collectors, as follows:

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A list of the reverses which may be obtained will be printed in the next issue of the MAGAZINE.

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